initially extends from head 120 along a strap attachment axis S substantially parallel to the strap passageway, and is then formed with a bend at neck section 130 such that the strap extends substantially perpendicular to the strap attachment axis S. With such a bent neck design, a more favorable position of the portion of strap 110 exiting the strap passageway after threading is achieved. This can be particularly important when the excess strap length is cut off so as to avoid a sharp edge sticking up. However, a substantial amount of the bending forces acting on cable tie 100 during use act at the bent portion. That is, to accommodate either a very small bundle of cables or a large bundle of cables, strap 110 will need to be stretched inward or outward and the forces from such stretching are concentrated at the prebent neck section 130.

In the Claims:

Please substitute the following claim for the pending claim identically numbered:

1. A cable tie, comprising:

a strap including a first end forming a neck section, a free end opposite the first end, and an intermediate section between the first end and the free end, the intermediate section having a predetermined width B_1 and thickness T_1 defining a predetermined cross-sectional area;

a cable tie head secured to the neck area of the strap at the first end of the strap, the cable tie head having a width E that is wider than strap width B and including a strap accepting channel containing a locking device, the strap accepting channel being sized to receive the free end of the strap,

wherein the neck section has a width that transitions from a width of B_1 near the strap to a width E' adjacent the cable tie head that is substantially the same as width E of the cable tie head and a thickness T_2 that is thinner than T_1, the neck section having a cross-sectional area that is at least